

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1.-8. (CANCEL)

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ a periodontal disease, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a viscous preparation for dental use which comprises basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF) as an effective ingredient and further a thickener.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the thickener is at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl cellulose, sodium alginate, propylene glycol alginate, carboxyvinyl polymer, carmelose sodium, hyaluronic acid, sodium hyaluronate, hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxyethylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, polyacrylic acid, sodium polyacrylate, polyacrylic acid partial neutralized product, polyvinyl alcohol, methyl cellulose, xanthan gum, chondroitin sulfuric acid, and sodium chondroitin sulfate.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the thickener is hydroxypropyl cellulose.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the periodontal disease is periodontosis.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein bFGF comprises 0.0001 to 20% by weight of the total weight of the preparation.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 11, wherein bFGF comprises 0.0001 to 20% by weight of the total weight of the preparation.
15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 10, wherein the periodontal disease is periodontosis.
16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 15, wherein bFGF comprises 0.0001 to 20% by weight of the total weight of the preparation.
17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the periodontal disease is selected from the group consisting of repair of periodontium after tooth extraction, repair of periodontium after removal of a cyst, repair of periodontium after removal of an oral cavity cancer, progress of fixation of implanting material, and regeneration of dentin defected by dental caries.
18. (NEW) The method of claim 9, wherein the viscous preparation further comprises an inactive and non-toxic additive and a solution for dissolution.
19. (NEW) The method of claim 9, wherein the viscous preparation for dental use is prepared by dissolving bFGF, a thickener, and if necessary, an inactive and non-toxic additive into a solution for dissolution.
20. (NEW) The method of claim 18, wherein the solution for dissolution is water.
21. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the solution for dissolution is water.
22. (NEW) The method of claim 9, wherein the viscous preparation has a viscosity of 20 to 25,000 mPa's when measured at 25°C by using an E type viscometer.
23. (NEW) The method of claim 22, wherein the viscous preparation has a viscosity of 1,000 to 20,000 mPa's.
24. (NEW) The method of claim 22, wherein the viscous preparation has viscosity of 3,000 to 15,000 mPa's.